

stead laws, or of other valid claims within the Walapai Indian Reservation in Mohave and Coconino Counties, Arizona, and to permit lieu selections within the boundaries of the said reservation by those surrendering their rights so that the lands retained for Indian purposes may be consolidated and held in a solid area so far as may be possible: *Provided*, That the title or claim of any person or company who refuses to reconvey to the Government shall not be hereby affected.

Proviso.
Title not affected, if reconveyance refused.

Approved, February 20, 1925.

CHAP. 274.—An Act To amend section 5147 of the Revised Statutes.

February 20, 1925.

[S. 2209.]

[Public, No. 430.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 5147 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

National banks.
R. S., sec. 5147, p. 995, amended.

Oath required of directors.

"Sec. 5147. Each director, when appointed or elected, shall take an oath that he will, so far as the duty devolves on him, diligently and honestly administer the affairs of such association, and will not knowingly violate or willingly permit to be violated, any of the provisions of this title, and that he is the owner in good faith, and in his own right, of the number of shares of stock required by this title, subscribed by him, or standing in his name on the books of the association, and that the same is not hypothecated, or in any way pledged, as security for any loan or debt. The oath shall be taken before a notary public, properly authorized and commissioned by the State in which he resides, or before any other officer having an official seal and authorized by the State to administer oaths, except that the oath shall not be taken before any such notary public or other officer who is an officer of the director's bank. The oath, subscribed by the director making it, and certified by the notary public or other officer before whom it is taken, shall be immediately transmitted to the Comptroller of the Currency and shall be filed and preserved in his office for a period of ten years."

Administered by any notary, etc., except one connected with the bank.

Transmittal and filing.

Approved, February 20, 1925.

CHAP. 275.—An Act Authorizing the Postmaster General to permit the use of precanceled stamped envelopes.

February 20, 1925.

[H. R. 10471.]

[Public, No. 431.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Postmaster General is authorized, under such regulations as he may prescribe, to issue a permit to persons using Government stamped envelopes to deface the postage stamps thereon in connection with the placing on the envelopes of the name of the post office and State of mailing, together with such other indicia as may be prescribed.

Postal service.
Precanceling of stamped envelopes permitted.

Approved, February 20, 1925.

CHAP. 276.—An Act To authorize the payment of an indemnity to the Government of Norway on account of losses sustained by the owners of the Norwegian steamship Hassel as the result of a collision between that steamship and the American steamship Ausable.

February 21, 1925.

[S. 2718.]

[Public, No. 432.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby authorized to be paid to the Government of Norway, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, as a matter of grace and without reference to the question of liability therefor,

Norway.
Payment to, as indemnity for losses to owners of steamship "Hassel" from collision.

as full indemnity for the losses sustained by the owners of the Norwegian steamship Hassel, or any other parties pecuniarily interested, as the result of a collision on August 24, 1918, between that steamship and the American steamship Ausable, operated by the War Department, the sum of \$164,169.23, as recommended by the President in his message to Congress of February 25, 1924, printed as Senate Document Numbered 52, Sixty-eighth Congress, first session.

Approved, February 21, 1925.

February 21, 1925.
[S. 2397.]
[Public, No. 433.]

CHAP. 277.—An Act To provide for refunds to veterans of the World War of certain amounts paid by them under Federal irrigation projects.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That as used in this Act—

Reclamation projects.

Terms construed.
"Veteran."

Persons excluded.

(a) The term "veteran" includes any individual a member of the military or naval forces of the United States at any time after April 5, 1917, and before November 12, 1918; but does not include (1) any individual at any time during such period or thereafter separated from such forces under other than honorable conditions, (2) any conscientious objector who performed no military duty whatever or refused to wear the uniform, or (3) any alien at any time during such period or thereafter discharged from the military or naval forces on account of his alienage; and

"Reclamation law."
Vol. 32, p. 388.

(b) The term "reclamation law" means the Act entitled "An Act appropriating the receipts from the sale and disposal of public lands in certain States and Territories to the construction of irrigation works for the reclamation of arid lands," approved June 17, 1902, and all Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto.

Veteran no longer retaining, etc., a farm unit may apply for refund of charges paid.

SEC. 2. (a) Any veteran—who at any time since April 6, 1917, has made entry upon a farm unit within a Federal irrigation project under the reclamation law and (1) who no longer retains such entry because of cancellation by, or relinquishment to, the United States after or (2) who, prior to receipt by him of a final certificate in respect of such entry, but in no case more than one year after the date of passage of this Act, desires to relinquish such entry—may, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, file application for the refund provided in subdivision (b). A veteran who has been compensated, in cash or otherwise, for any such relinquishment shall not be entitled to the benefits of this Act, and before payment of such refund the Secretary of the Interior, under such regulations as he may prescribe, shall require proof that the veteran has not been so compensated.

If already compensated not entitled to refund.

Investigation and refund by the Secretary.

(b) Upon receipt of such application the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to investigate the facts and, in his discretion, to pay as a refund to any such veteran entitled thereto, a sum equal to all amounts paid to the United States by such veteran, or for his account, as construction charges and as interest and penalties on such charges in respect of such unit. Every such refund so approved by the Secretary of the Interior shall be paid from the appropriation for the project on which the entry in question was made.

Payment from project allotment.

Benefits payable to estate.

SEC. 3. (a) The estate of a veteran shall be entitled to the benefits of this Act in any case where the veteran, if living, could have availed himself of such benefits. Application for such benefits shall be made by, and payments thereof shall be made to, the executor or administrator of such estate.